

URBAN DISTRICT OF LITTLE CROSBY
— LANCASHIRE. —

REPORT

ON THE

General, Health and Sanitary Conditions

during the year 1913,


Pertaining to the said Urban District of Little Crosby,

— BY —

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LITTLE CROSBY.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting for your consideration my Annual Report for the year just ended, namely 1913, which in many respects may be regarded as even more favourable than its predecessor, more especially in the matter of a slightly lower deathrate, and the general improvement in the conditions relating to the housing of the working classes of the population of the District.

Area

Our District of Little Crosby has a surface area of some 1924 acres (statute), and is bounded on the west by the Great Crosby Urban District and the River Mersey; on the North and East by the Sefton Rural District, which includes the Townships of Ince Blundell and Thornton; on the South by the Thornton Section of the Sefton Rural District.

Subsoil

The Subsoil of the District is chiefly sand, clay and red sandstone.

**Rateable
Value**

The Rateable Value of the District for 1913-1914 is £8694; and the Assessable Value of the District for 1913-1914 is £5720 10s.

**Water
Courses**

The principal Water Courses of the District are two in number, namely: Farmoss Pool on the western side, and Kay's Cut on the east and northern boundaries of the District.

Population

The Census of 1901 gave us a Population of 563; the Census of 1911, a corrected number, *i.e.* 844. as compared with the estimated number of 865. For 1912 we estimated our Population up to the middle of June to be about 900; for the same period in 1913 we estimate the Population to be some 920 people in our District.

Birthrate

The Birthrate for 1912 was 15.55 per 1000 of the Population by a singular coincidence is approximately the same as the year 1913.

There were 6 Males and 8 Females born in the District in the year 1913. By a strange coincidence exactly the same number, 14, and in same proportion, *i.e.* 6 Males and 8 Females as in the year 1912. The total Births being 14 this gives us a Birthrate of 15.21 per 1000 of the population (estimated at 920), that of 1912 being 15.55 per 1000 of the population (estimated at 900).

Deathrate

The Deathrate for 1912 was 13.33 of the Population. The Deathrate for 1913 shows a very favourable decrease. The total number of deaths (*i.e.* those who actually died in the District, 6, plus 2 residents who died outside the District and must be included in our Deaths) for 1913 being 8 this (with an estimated population of 920) gives us for the year 1913 a Deathrate of 8.69 per 1000 of the population, the Deathrate of 1912 being 13.33 per 1000 of the population.

The Deaths occurring in the District were as follows :—

- 2 Deaths (1 Male 65 years, 1 Female 47 years) were from Cerebral Diseases, Hæmorrhage and Thombosis.
- 1 Death, a Female 59 years, due to Diabetes Mellitis.
- 1 Death, a Female 5 days, due to Pneumonia.
- 1 Death. a Female 61 years, Bronchitis and Debility.
- 1 Death, a Female 59 years. Heart Disease.

Outside the District in Hospitals—Walton and Bootle :—

- 1 Death, a Male 63 years, due to Arterio Sclerosis and Heart Failure.
- 1 Death, a Male 68 years, due to Acute Gastro Ententis Collapse.

Infantile Deathrate

There being one death of an infant 5 days old (from Acute Pneumonia) during the year 1913, this will give our District an Infant Mortality of 71.42 per 1000 Births, which is approximately the same as last year.

**Zymotic
Deathrate**

There were no deaths from notifiable Zymotic disease during the year, the Deathrate from such diseases being Nil.

Tuberculosis

There were no deaths or cases from Tuberculosis disease during 1913.

**Prevalent
Diseases**

There have been no special cases of an epidemic nature. The general health of the District has been uniformly good. Only a few sporadic cases of diseases such as Measles, Whooping Cough, or Mumps, have occurred during the year, and nothing of a virulent nature.

**Housing
and
Town
Planning**

Under the Section of Town Planning and Housing of the Working Class population of the District the following work has been done as required by Article V. of the Housing Regulations, 1910, in regard to Inspection of Dwellings under Section 17 of the Housing and Town Planning Act of 1909.

(A.) INSPECTION OF HOUSES.—For the purposes of this Section the District has been sub-divided in four Sections—(1) the North-Western, (2) the North Eastern, (3) the South Eastern, and (4) the South Western.

**South-
western
Section**

The South Western Section has been inspected in 1913. This includes the Western side of the Village of Little Crosby, which is entirely inhabited by a Farming and Rural Working Class.

**Houses
Inspected
No. 19.**

Nineteen Houses were inspected and in four cases suggestions were given to the Landlord, and the defects have been remedied. The defects in two cases were those of wear and tear; in two cases over-crowding.

**Closing
Orders**

In no case was a Closing Order considered necessary.

**Number of
Defective
Houses**

Four Houses required defects to be repaired or overcrowding remedied, and in all cases this was done voluntarily by the owner on representation from the Council.

**General
Character
of Defects**

Taking into consideration the antiquity of the old Village of Little Crosby, coupled with pardonable affinity of the people to cling to the "Old House at Home," we have the case in a nutshell, *i.e.* two factors at work :—(*a*) Natural wear and tear; (*b*) tendency to overcrowd. These conditions are always before the new Landlord who is voluntarily doing all in his power (and therefore he deserves the Council's best help and warm thanks) to combat these difficulties. Repair of defects is always proceeding in a routine manner, overcrowding is met (*a*) by changing large families into larger Cottages, and small families into small Cottages. (*b*) Where this is not sufficient the overflow takes residence in the neighbouring districts of Great Crosby, Waterloo, or even Bootle, or Liverpool. It must be remembered that with the exception of the Hightown portion of the District, which is quite of the new order of things, that our District is entirely "Rural."

**Town
Planning**

Six Dwelling Houses have been erected during the year, all in the Hightown section, *i.e.* two Villa Residences, and four Artizans' Cottages, near to the Pumping Station, for the Workmen employed at the Pumping Station and others.

Near to the L. & Y. Railway Station there is a small Petrol, Atmospheric Air Gas Works on a small scale, employing two men, and which I mentioned in last year's Report.

One new Bank Building (not residential) has also been erected at Hightown.

**Water
Supply**

The Water Supply for the District is derived from the same source as that of Liverpool: it is very good and plentiful in quantity and quality. No complaints have been raised, nor has lead or other deleterious matter been detected in it.

Milk Supply

The Milk Supply is obtained chiefly from two Dairies in the District, both situated at Hightown. The County Constabulary look after the analysis and testing of the Milk.

Sewers

There are two Sewerage Sections, namely (a) at Hightown the waterborne sewerage empties into the outlet of the River Alt. (b) In Little Crosby Village the sewerage system comprises a small Filter Bed, with the Effluent Outlet into the Farmoss Pool, which empties itself into the River Mersey. All the Sewers and Drains have been well and periodically flushed.

Scavenging

Scavenging is carried out by the Local Authority.

Nuisances

Four minor Nuisances have occurred in the District and have been at once abated at the instigation of the Nuisance Inspector without Special Action of the Council.

Secondary Roads &c.

The "Secondary" and other Roads throughout the District have been kept in a good state of repair during the year. There are no "Main" Roads in the District.

The Food and Drugs Act.

We have had no cause for legal action under the Act mentioned.

The Dairies and Cowsheds have been visited, and suggestions regarding frequent lime-washing and removal of manure heaps to a greater distance from the shippens have been given.

Building operations in the District have not been on such an energetic scale as in former years, probably out of sympathy with the wave of general stagnation in that branch of industry which appears to be passing over the country.

All things considered the year 1913 has not been marked by anything eventful, and we must congratulate the Council of the District upon the low Deathrate of the Resident Population.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

EDWARD BUXTON, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health

Prepared in *January, 1914.*

